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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Cederholm-Williams, Stewart A.
Serial No. 09/334,325 Art Unit: 1633
Filing Date: June 16, 1999 Examiner: Chen, S.
For: Fibrin Sealant As A Transfection/Transformation Vehicle For
Gene Therapy
Docket No. CV-0276A

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 3, 2000, the amendments set forth below are respectfully submitted.¹ With the Petition for an Extension of Time (one month) incorporated herein, the present amendment is timely filed on or before May 3, 2000.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Sub C' Please insert as the first line of this application: -- ~~This application claims the priority of~~
a' US Provisional Application 60/089,543, filed June 17, 1998. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below, and

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1. **(Once Amended)** A method of transforming a cell comprising the steps of:
applying a transformation effective amount of a nucleic acid to the cell;

¹ I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON MAY 3, 2000.


By: Arthur E. Jackson, Reg. No. 34,354

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[applying] adhering a pliable, adhesive fibrin gel to the cell so as to entrap a transformation effective amount of the nucleic acid in the fibrin gel adhered to the cell; and transforming the cell with the nucleic acid.

2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is applied in admixture with a fibrin or fibrinogen composition that forms the pliable, adhesive fibrin gel.

3. (Once Amended) A method of conducting gene therapy comprising: conducting the steps of Claim 1 in vitro; and implanting the transformed cells into an animal.

4. (Unchanged) The method of claim 3, wherein the cell to which the nucleic acid is applied is a precursor of a more specialized cell type, and the method further comprises: maturing the cell to the specialized cell type either *in vitro* or *in vivo* following the implanting.

Please cancel claims 5-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following new claims:

Q3

13. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is a plasmid.

14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is incorporated in a virus.

15. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the pliable, adhesive fibrin gel is formed by mixing a fibrin monomer composition with a polymerizing agent preparation effective to convert the fibrin monomer preparation into a fibrin gel, and adhered by contacting the cell with the mixture while the mixture is pliable and adhesive.